

REMARKS

Claims 1, 9, 11, 13, 15, and 16 have been amended. Claims 1-16 are currently pending. No new matter has been added. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below.

On page 2 of the Office Action, claims 1-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by European Patent Application No. EP-1043648 A2 (Stoltz).

Stoltz describes collation of user ID's and PIN's (see paragraphs 89-93). According to Stoltz, the authentication database 218 includes password and biometric data (paragraph 91 of Stoltz). The data is stored in advance for collation as user authentication information.

An objective of the present invention is to obtain information necessary for initial registration of a utilization starting procedure of electrical appliances such as a TV and an oven connected to the Internet. In contrast, Stoltz is directed to authentication of a user receiving service and access control of the sessions. Therefore, input of the user registration information to the MS in the present invention is only once when an electrical appliances (IA terminal) is first connected to the Internet, while the invention in Stoltz requires the input every time a user accesses the service server.

In the present invention, the USU stores information for automatic initial registration necessary for a utilization starting procedure of an IA terminal such as an Internet TV and comprises items of necessary information and information set as a part of the items. One of the purposes of the present invention is to complete the information in items in the USC (that is, to register information to the items necessary for initial registration). The smart card of the present invention stores information identifying a user, and when user registration information is transmitted from the IA terminal to a management device, reads out the information for transmission. Thus, the trouble of keyboard input is eliminated (see paragraphs 63-64, 124 of the specification of the present invention).

In the present invention, at least an IA terminal identifier is stored in the IS terminal and transmitted to the MS. A user ID, for example, is not stored, and the ID is input from a keyboard, etc., before transmitted to the MS (the information is input from the IA terminal when viewed from the MS).

Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1, for example, is not anticipated by Stoltz, as Stoltz does not disclose or teach, "a user registration information collation unit collating the user registration information received by the transmission and receiving unit on the side of the IA terminal user management system with the user registration information stored in

the IA terminal user storing unit and writing the user registration information in the IA terminal user storing unit if necessary."

The Examiner indicated that Stoltz's collation of a user ID and PIN's is equivalent to the user registration information collation unit (the ICU) of the present invention. Applicants respectfully submit that the ICU of the present invention collates the information obtained from the IA terminal and the information of the USU, and, if necessary, registers the information obtained from the IA terminal to the USU (see paragraphs 72, 107-111 of the specification of the present invention). Therefore, the content of Stoltz's collation is not the same as the content of the present invention's collation.

Applicants respectfully submit that Stoltz also does not disclose or teach, "an IA terminal user storing unit storing IA terminal information including an IA terminal identifier for identifying a number or mark of a manufacturer of the IA terminal," as recited in independent claim 1, for example.

The Examiner alleges that the service server with session manager 206 and authentication manager 204 is connected to an IA terminal such as a network terminal 202, comprising an IA terminal user storing unit including an IA terminal identifier (see page 7, lines 14-20 of the Office Action).

Applicants respectfully submit that the IA terminal identifier, which is one of the pieces of information obtained from the IA terminal in the present invention, is not described in the cited reference. The IA terminal identifier of the present invention is, for example, a number or a code assigned by manufacturers or sellers (see paragraph 75 of the specification of the present invention). The IA terminal can identify the type, the manufacturer, the model number, etc., of appliances such as Internet TV's and Internet ovens by the identifier. The identification addresses a problem that methods of initial registration of utilization starting procedure is different depending on the types and equipment item numbers of the electronic appliances (i.e., IA terminal) connected to the Internet.

In contrast, the identifier in the cited reference is generated by an authentication module 240 (see paragraph 104 of Stoltz), and likely to only identify network terminals that are in use.

Applicants respectfully submit that identifying network terminals that are in use is not tantamount to identifying a number or mark of a manufacturer of an IA terminal, as recited in claim 1.

The Examiner argues that the present invention's input request of the user registration

information is described in Stoltz. See Office Action, page 8, lines 1-5.

Applicants respectfully submit that the input request of Stoltz is a request to input user information for authenticating a normal user requesting to establish a session. In contrast, in the present invention, the input is to register to the USU the electrical appliances to be connected to a network and the user. Therefore, the present invention's input of the user registration information is not tantamount to Stoltz's input request.

More specifically, two operations of information input occur in the present invention from the IA terminal to the MS. The first operation is to transmit the information to be stored in the IA terminal such as an IA terminal identifier (the information is input from the IA terminal when viewed from the MS). The information is then collated with the information of the USU, and if necessary, the information is written to the USU. When the USU still lacks the necessary information, the lacking information is transmitted from the IA terminal to the MS in the second operation. Applicants respectfully submit that Stoltz does not disclose or teach the above-described feature of the present invention.

The Examiner also alleges that Stoltz teaches that the registered information, which has not been collated, is obtained and registered using a different authentication mechanism such as password and biometric data (see page 8, lines 14-22 of the Office Action).

Stoltz describes an authentication database 21 including password and biometric data (paragraph 91 of Stoltz). The data, however, is stored in advance for collation as user authentication information. Therefore, Stoltz does not obtain and register the information from the IA terminal (i.e., to register input information), to obtain complete information necessary for initial registration in starting the utilization of electrical appliances connected to the Internet, as in the present invention (user registration information).

In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that the independent claims of the present invention are patentable over Stoltz. As the dependent claims depend from respective independent claims, the dependent claims are patentable over Stoltz for at least the reasons presented for the independent claims.

Applicant respectfully submit that the claims are not taught, disclosed or suggested by the prior art. The claims are therefore in a condition suitable for allowance. An early Notice of Allowance is requested.

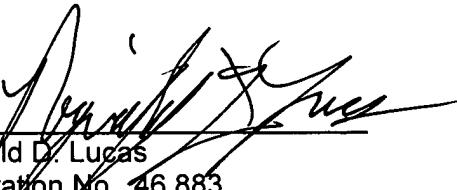
If any further fees, other than and except for the issue fee, are necessary with respect to this paper, the U.S.P.T.O. is requested to obtain the same from deposit account number 19-

3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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